

Lincoln's Cabinet at the Crossroads of War

A Civil War Sesquicentennial Exhibition

324-10 November 5, 2010

CONTACT: David Blanchette (217) 558-8970

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gettysburg Address reader's theater offered on famous speech's 147th anniversary

November 19 and 20 performances coincide with ongoing "Team of Rivals" exhibit at Lincoln Presidential Museum

SPRINGFIELD – The words "Four score and seven years ago..." were first uttered November 19, 1863, and 147 years later that famous speech will be the subject of reader's theater performances Friday and Saturday, November 19 and 20 at 11:30 a.m. both days in the Union Theater at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in downtown Springfield. The readings are taken from the Doris Kearns Goodwin book *Team of Rivals*, the title of an ongoing exhibit at the Museum.

Paid admission is required to enter the Museum, but tickets for the Gettysburg Address reader's theater are free and will be distributed 90 minutes prior to each performance.

Local actors and museum volunteers will take part in performed readings of various sections of the book *Team of Rivals* throughout the ten months of the exhibit. The November 19 and 20 performances will center on the section of the book that deals with Lincoln's preparation for the 1863 Gettysburg Cemetery dedication, what the speech means, and the reaction to it once it had been delivered

The "Team of Rivals" exhibit, which runs through August 2011, demonstrates how and why Lincoln chose his first cabinet, his First Inaugural Address, the road to Secession, and the bombardment of Fort Sumter to start the Civil War. Original artifacts from Lincoln, his cabinet members, and Fort Sumter are part of this exclusive exhibit.

For more information about "Team of Rivals" or other programs and exhibits at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, visit www.presidentlincoln.org.

#